

WILLIAM BAKER OLIVER LOCK AND DAM  
(Oliver Lock and Dam)  
Birmingham Industrial District  
Spans the Warrior River  
between Tuscaloosa and Northport  
Tuscaloosa  
Tuscaloosa County  
Alabama

HAER No. AL-136

BLACK & WHITE PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL & DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD  
National Park Service  
Department of the Interior  
P.O. Box 37127  
Washington, D.C. 20013-7127

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

WILLIAM BAKER OLIVER LOCK AND DAM

HAER No. AL-136

Location: The Oliver Lock and Dam extends across the Warrior River between Tuscaloosa and Northport.

Dates of  
Construction: 1987-1992

Project  
Information: This report is based on written documentation donated by the Birmingham Historical Society, reformatted to HABS/HAER guidelines.

Historical  
Overview: The Oliver Lock and Dam replaced Locks No. 10, 11, 12 (old No. 1, No. 2, No. 3). The dam and lock were named for William Bacon Oliver, U.S. Congressman from Tuscaloosa. The Warrior-Tombigbee Development Association began in 1948 to work for the redevelopment of the Warrior-Tombigbee Waterway System. Replacement of outmoded locks and dams, improvement of the Port of Mobile, and ongoing maintenance funds to support reliable navigation are the objectives of the association. Five locks were constructed from 1954 to 1975. Prior to construction of the current dam, a reconnaissance survey of the Oliver Lock and Dam properties was prepared for the Corps of Engineers.

Sources: Alexander, Lawrence S. Phase 1 Archaeological Reconnaissance of the Oliver Lock and Dam Project Area, Tuscaloosa County, Alabama. Report of Investigations No. 33, prepared for the U.S. Corps of Engineers, Mobile District. Office of Archaeological Research, University of Alabama, 1982.

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